

REPORTS CONFLICT.

Spanish Minister at Washington Receives Confirmation

THAT MACEO IS REALLY DEAD.

But Cuban Representatives Say it is a Spanish "Fake."

THEY RILICULE DESCRIPTION

Of the Alleged Body of the Insurgent Leader, and Say the Report is Sent Out by Spanish Authorities to Influence Action of Congress--Senator De Lome Receives a Late Dispatch in which it is Stated that there is No Doubt that the Bodies Found were Those of Maceo and Young Gomez, but it Looks Fishy.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 9.--The correspondents reports from Havana this evening differ in details regarding the reported death of Maceo. The story is not thought to be true, but it is believed to have been sent out by the Spanish government to stop action in Congress for the relief of the insurgents. American correspondents sent couriers to the scene of the battle, but they were chased back to the city by the Spanish troops. General Weyler telegraphed from Atorales to Havana for reinforcements on the 7th inst., stating that he had Maceo hemmed in. Two shiploads of troops went into Havana as the Olivette passed out.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--Senator de Lome, the Spanish minister, received a cable dispatch from Havana last night which seems to bear out the press report of the death of Antonio Maceo and young Gomez. Owing to the fact that the cable was sent last night before the press report, it is lacking in many of the details of the latter. It says in substance that after the engagement near Mariel on Monday two bodies were found on the field which from their clothing and papers found upon them are taken to be those of Maceo and his young companion. Senator de Lome declined to discuss the probability of the report, but expected much advice from the government at Havana.

At the Cuban headquarters here no alarm is felt at the reported death of the insurgent, General Maceo. Second Secretary Diaz-Albertini, who is the only member of the junta now in the city, expressed himself in most positive terms that the story had no basis of truth and was sent out for the sole purpose of influencing, and if possible defeating action by Congress of the United States. "You will notice," said the secretary, "that the story contains very many details of the finding of the body, the marked linen and letters from the elder to the younger Gomez. It is really amazing to learn that many of the silk socks for many a day, which were silk socks containing his initials worked in red silk, and that his linen and that of the younger Gomez whose body is said to have been found near that of his chief, was also marked with their initials. Anyone who knows either of these men, knows that they have not seen much less worn, linen shirts and silk socks for many a day. The whole story is a feeble and transparent attempt to delay action by Congress and nothing else. The United States, and the Spaniards, too, will soon learn that Maceo is very much alive."

Apparently Confirmed. The following dispatch, in detail confirmatory of his previous advice, was received to-night by Minister de Lome from the Spanish minister of foreign affairs: "The insurgent leader, Antonio Maceo, making the impossibility of remaining in Pinar del Rio province and being constantly pursued by Spanish columns, crossed the trocha on the fourth instant. He was at the head of over two thousand men, whom he had recruited from the local bands of the western part of the province of Havana. When he was captured by Major Cirujeda, column 22 men strong, Maceo's forces were routed, the leader being killed in the engagement and Maximino Gomez's son committing suicide, after being wounded. The corpses have been identified and their clothing, arms and the documents found in their possession were taken by the Spaniards. The remainder of the band have dispersed in consequence of this brilliant victory of our troops."

SPANISH REPORTS Of Battles Give Cuban Losses but Not Their Own.

HAVANA, Dec. 9.--General Alvaro Reconocimiento at Maguanyo and other parts in the province of Santa Clara has dispersed several groups of insurgents and has captured one hundred and twenty horses. The local guerrilla force of Guenajay, in a skirmish with insurgents, killed Rodriguez, their leader. General Melquillo has captured and destroyed insurgent positions on the heights of Ica and Jibara, Pinar del Rio, killing the commanders of the enemy in both places. Lieutenant Colonel Martinez, attacked at Planeco, Pinar del Rio, the insurgents commanded by Luis Perez. He destroyed the enemy's camp there and the insurgent position at Chiller, where the enemy was dispersed, leaving thirty-five dead, including the insurgent leader.

PRESIDENT PALMA And Others of the Cuban Junta Say the Reports are Untrue.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.--Dr. Thomas Estrada Palma and Dr. J. Castillo, of the Cuban Junta in this city, refuse to give credence to the report of the death of General Antonio Maceo in a recent engagement with Major Cirujeda after crossing the trocha, in the western part of Cuba. "This is the seventh time that the press of Maceo's death has been circulated with the semblance of official authority," said Dr. Castillo. Continuing, the doctor said it had always been the custom to report that Maceo had fallen in conflict whenever he compelled the Spanish to retreat with heavy loss of life. "Those of the Cuban sympathizers in the city who had looked to the Junta headquarters to-day in the hope of obtaining more definite information as to the truth or falsity of the report were clearly disappointed, but professed to

place little reliance in the story of the death of Maceo and Francisco Gomez. "I shall reserve my decision until I receive more authentic information," was all that General Palma would say.

Dr. Castillo thinks it strange that in making the identification of Maceo's body reference is to the four bullet wounds on his breast was not made. "When the sixth report of his death had been circulated, one of the points of identification given was the finding of his initials A. M. on his saddle. I saw the saddle and knew there were no such letters on it," added the doctor.

A SILLY FAKE By an Opposition Press Association in Exploded in a Single Sentence.

MADRID, Dec. 9.--The sensational story circulated in the United States by a news agency regarding the excitement said to prevail at Valencia on account of the expected arrival there of the American Cuban filibustering steamer Laurada, which has been loading fruit at Messina, Italy, is false in every particular. It was stated that the excitement has been sent to that port in order to assist the local authorities in preserving order. It was further intimated that "interesting international complications" were likely to arise from the incident, between the United States and Spain, as it was extremely probable that the Laurada on arrival at Valencia would be seized and her captain arrested.

So serious was the matter represented to be, that Secretary Olney was announced by the news agency to have been cabled to Madrid on the subject; and, finally, it is said that the Laurada would remain at Messina until the United States department of state should decide that it was safe for her to proceed.

The whole "sensational" is exploded by one simple statement--the Laurada is not loading for Valencia, Spain, but for Valencia, Venezuela.

De Arango Doesn't Believe It.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 9.--Senator A. De Arango, the local Cuban leader, is not confident that General Maceo is not dead, as reported. Speaking of the matter to-day the Cuban said: "I have just received a telegram from a member of the junta, which states there is absolutely no ground for the report." "But even if Maceo was killed," continued Senator A. De Arango, his death would not end the revolution. I only wish we had as good a supply of ammunition as we have of good men to carry on the war.

"I believe that the time for action by this government will depend a great deal on the campaign now being carried on between Weyler and Maceo."

"Should Maceo give Weyler a good thrashing the United States government would act quickly. We expect that Congress will pass a law recognizing the independence of Cuba."

Joy in Madrid.

MADRID, Dec. 9.--The official announcement of the death of Antonio Maceo and Francisco Gomez, the son of Maximino Gomez, has been published here and has caused the greatest enthusiasm. Crowds of students are marching through the streets, manifestations have been held in front of the ministry for the colonies and the crowds cheered for Spain, the army and for Major Cirujeda, whose column defeated the insurgents under Maceo near Punta Brava, in Havana province.

MURDER MYSTERY

Near Hinton--A Young Man Found Dead Under Peculiar Circumstances.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. HINTON, W. Va., Dec. 9.--"Stone" Adkins, a wild young fellow, was found dead near the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad track at a point near Meadow Creek station, this morning, under circumstances that seem to show conclusively that he had been murdered. His right leg and right arm were both broken, and Dr. S. P. Beck, of this city, after an examination, testified before the coroner's jury that the bones were broken after death. A pool of blood was found on the railroad track about 1,500 feet above where the body was found and the ground around the pool showed marks of a scuffle having taken place. Adkins left Galesburg station last night in company with several young men, one of whom was known as "Little Man" of whom they went to a place kept by some lewd women and on the way back had two or three fights. Caylor had with him a rock about the size of an egg tied in the corner of a silk handkerchief. This handkerchief and Caylor's hat were found near the pool of blood in the track, and Adkins' skull had a hole in it about such as could have been made with the rock, and his neck showed the prints of finger nails.

All sorts of stories are afloat as to Caylor having made a confession, but nothing definite. Caylor is under arrest.

COL. MCLURE HONORED.

Golden Anniversary of His Entry Into Journalism.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 9.--Eminent public men from many cities met round the board at the Hotel Walton to-night and did honor to Colonel Alexander K. McClure, editor of the Times, who to-day completed his fiftieth year in journalism. Governor Hastings presided and the event was made notable by the presence of Vice President Adlai E. Stevenson, Major General Miles, Commodore Melville and many congressmen and senators.

The newspaper world was represented by a large out-of-town contingent. The proprietors and editors of all the Philadelphia newspapers were also present.

When the speech-making began, Governor Hastings introduced the guest of the evening, with a neat address. He briefly reviewed Colonel McClure's career from boyhood, dwelling upon his early struggles, his conquest of them and his achievements in journalism, politics and literature, culminating in the event of to-night.

Colonel McClure followed, devoting most of his remarks to a review of the progress of journalism during the past fifty years.

Western Union Statement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.--The report of the Western Union Telegraph Company, for the quarter ending December 31, shows: Net revenue, \$1,600,000; decrease, \$3,416; and surplus after all charges and dividends, \$1,631,000; decrease, \$3,239. The statements for the six months ending December 31, show: Net revenue, \$3,187,533; decrease, \$258,522; surplus \$236,894, decrease, \$258,163, and a total surplus of \$1,650,588, decrease \$61,945.

Fraud Order.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--The postoffice department has issued a fraud order against the Standard Employment Company, of St. Louis, a new name for the St. Louis Employment Company, already barred from the mails.

Gear Acquitted.

TO FREE CUBA.

Three Radical Resolutions Are Now Before the Senate

TO RECOGNIZE INDEPENDENCE

Of the Struggling Patriots--Mr. Mills Calls Upon the President to Take Possession of the Island and Protect the Cubans Until They Form a Government.

Senator Cameron Wants Immediate Recognition--Dingley Bill Considered, but Gives Way to Immigration Bill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--Mr. Frye, (Rep., Maine), president pro tem of the senate, occupied the chair to-day in the absence of the vice president.

A series of vigorous Cuban resolutions were presented at the opening. The first, offered by Mr. Cameron, (Rep., Pa.), was as follows: "Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives, that the independence of the republic of Cuba be and the same hereby acknowledged by the United States of America."

"Resolved, That the United States should use its friendly offices with the government of Spain to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba."

Mr. Mills, (Dem., Texas), followed the Cameron resolution at once with the following resolution:

"Joint resolution directing the President of the United States to take possession of the island of Cuba and hold it until the inhabitants can institute such government as they may wish and organize and arm such forces as may be necessary to protect them against invasion."

Resolved, etc., That the President of the United States is hereby directed to take possession of the island of Cuba with the military and naval forces of the United States and hold the same until the people of Cuba can organize a government, deriving its powers from the consent of the governed, and arm and equip such military and naval forces as may be necessary to secure them against foreign invasion."

The Mills resolution was referred to the foreign relations committee.

Mr. Call, (Dem., Fla.), followed with another joint resolution, as follows:

"Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives, that the United States of America recognizes the republic of Cuba as a free and independent government and according consideration to all the rights of a sovereign and independent government in the ports and within the jurisdiction of the United States."

The Call resolution went to the table. Mr. Call announcing that he would speak on it at an early day.

Mr. Chandler, (Rep., N. H.), secured the adoption without comment, of a sweeping resolution directing the committee on inter-state commerce to inquire into the prevention by competition by the joint traffic association, composed of the railroads of the country; also the reported combination of the flour and milling interests of the country; also the reported combination of the window glass interests."

Mr. Allen, (Pop.), moved the consideration of the Dingley bill and it was carried, 25 to 21.

At 2 o'clock the Dingley bill was displaced by the immigration bill and went back to the calendar. Senator Allen sought to have it made a tariff business in the morning hour to-morrow, but objection was offered.

The Dingley Bill's Fate.

The senate, by the decisive vote of 25 to 21, adopting a motion to take up the Dingley tariff-silver bill, did an unexpected thing. Unexpected and surprising as this action was it did not have the significance which the vote at first appeared to convey.

Immediately following it, Mr. Aldrich, of Rhode Island, one of the Republican members of the finance committee, moved to recommit the bill to that committee, and his motion was pending, when at 2 o'clock, the hour expired and the entire matter lapsed as though no vote had been taken.

Neither the bill nor the Aldrich motion to recommit enjoys any privilege or precedence as a result of the action to-day. It served, however, for some lively parliamentary focusing between Mr. Allen, (Pop.), the author of the motion, and Mr. Chandler, (Rep., N. H.), as well as for an exposition of the uncertain and shifting elements within the senate when a vote is precipitated on an important public question. The debate was at times sharp and personal.

Mr. Allen is very blunt in his expressions and he taunted the Republican leaders for shrinking from the Dingley bill after conducting a tariff campaign.

"It has gone out from the powers that be, in the Republican party," said Mr. Allen at one point, "that with the incoming administration, we are to have an extraordinary session of Congress for the purpose of revising the tariff laws."

Thus Mr. Allen ran along, touching on many points that have hitherto been reserved for caucus consideration. Mr. Chandler reminded Mr. Allen that not only had the tariff won, but free silver by the United States had lost in the recent election and he urged Mr. Allen to aid in a genuine effort to execute the will of the people.

Mr. Hale took occasion to state with frankness that the Republican senators expected an actual majority in the next senate, which would make tariff legislation more easy of accomplishment than it is now.

Mr. Aldrich's first move was to ask to have the bill referred to the finance committee with instructions to strike off the silver amendment, but later he accepted the suggestion of Mr. Harris to limit the instructions. It was in the form that the question of re-commitment was pending when 2 o'clock arrived and cut off the debate.

In the House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--The house held a three hour session to-day and passed a dozen bills of minor importance. Among them were the following:

To extend for five years the time in which the university of Utah shall occupy lands granted to it; to authorize the use of the abandoned Fort Bidwell military reservation in California as a training school for Indians; to confirm certain creek entries for public lands in Arkansas made under the graduation act of 1854; to provide for the location and purchase of public lands for reservoirs in Montana, South Dakota and Wyoming; to protect settlement rights where two or more persons settle on the same land before survey; to adjust the accounts of John Y. Williams, formerly agent of the Fort Hall Indian reservation; to authorize the construction of a water system; to authorize any member of the legislature of New Mexico to swear in the preceding officer, to grant to the widow of the late Brigadier General Joseph B. Carr, a pension of \$15 a month; and to increase the pension of the late General John Hough to \$9 a month.

The house also agreed to the senate amendment approving certain acts of legislature of New Mexico for the issue of bonds so as to invalidate \$172,500 of

bonds of Santa Fe county. The Shafer bill for the protection of forest reservations from fire was defeated. The passage of the bill authorizing any member of the legislature of New Mexico to swear in the preceding officer is to prevent the secretary of the territory from performing that duty, which in the past, it is claimed, has practically given him the power to make up the preliminary roll. A resolution for the distribution of the President's message among the various committees until the jurisdiction of the several topics was adopted.

Allen Explains.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--When asked to explain the motive of his motion in the senate to-day to take up the Dingley tariff bill, Senator Allen replied: "I had no motive, except as we used to say in the army, to feel the enemy. I wanted to satisfy myself and the country as to the attitude of the Republicans towards this measure which they have professed to be so anxious to have become a law and I think I have at last succeeded in demonstrating that they have no intention of trying to do anything."

The senator declined to say whether he would in any way revive the question, but he intimated that he probably would.

WEST VIRGINIA MATTERS

In Washington--Governor-Elect Atkinson to the City.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--Governor-elect Atkinson arrived here this morning and has rooms at the Dunbarton. Since he reached the city he became slightly indisposed, but is better this evening. He was in conference for a part of the day with the state's representatives in Congress and with Senator Elkins. If his indisposition does not increase he will remain until Saturday.

Judge Phil Snyder, of Charleston, is also in the city, taking a bird's eye view of things on the house side of the capital and renewing old associations.

Mr. W. H. Straley, one of Mercer county's most prominent citizens, is spending a day or two here.

Each of the West Virginia members finds upon his desk daily a large accumulation of letters from the home constituency and devotes a large part of the time to the dictation of responses. Those who are inquiring about official positions receive but little encouragement from the situation, and may have to do the preliminary work over again.

Not including the fourth class postmasters, there are but few offices to fill and not one of the few can be given to anybody until after the inauguration in March, possibly not before next midsummer or late in the succeeding fall.

President Cleveland's legacy to the Republican administration in the way of political positions has grown "smaller by degrees and beautifully less" and there will necessarily be more than the usual number of disappointments.

LEMMONS MURDER TRIAL

Begin at Middlebourne--Sensational Developments Promised.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. SISTERSVILLE, W. Va., Dec. 9.--The trial of Elmore Lemmons, the man who is alleged to have shot his wife in this city a couple of months ago, a full account of which appeared in the Intelligencer at the time, was called before Judge Jacobs in the circuit court at Middlebourne late this afternoon, it having taken nearly two days to select a jury. The trial will probably be a long and tedious one, as there are a large number of witnesses to examine, there being more than twenty-five summoned on the case. The defense promises some sensational developments in the case before it has been on trial more than two or three days.

A short history of the crime for which Lemmons is on trial for his life is: On a Tuesday morning, about the 20th of May, at or about 2 o'clock in the morning, the wife of Elmore Lemmons, a prisoner, was shot in her bed at her home in the northern part of the city. An alarm was given and the police went up to the house, where they found Lemmons and several of the neighbors, who had been attracted by the report of the shot which had killed the woman. After investigation the police decided to hold Lemmons, whose story of the killing was considered very flimsy. He stated that he had come home about midnight and that his wife had let him in. That at the time the shot was fired he was asleep and that the report of the shot awakened him, and he jumped up and saw a man running out through the kitchen.

The woman was shot in the left breast, in a position that would seem to be impossible for the murderer to have done had he shot over Lemmons, as the prisoner claims he did. The story of the prisoner throughout was very flimsy, and on his own and the evidence of other witnesses, who said that he and his wife did not live happily together, he was held to answer court for the crime.

WILL RESUME WORK.

BUCKHANNON PLANNING MILL SOLD BY McGRAW & WELLS.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE INTELLIGENCER. BUCKHANNON, W. Va., Dec. 9.--The planning mill, attached to the big plant of the Buckhannon Lumber Company, was sold this week to A. G. Gilfill. This plant, which went under in the press of 1893, has been idle ever since. It was sold to J. T. McGraw and C. E. Wells at receiver's sale and many reports have been current as to what would be done.

Mr. Gilfill has been negotiating for some time with the owners, but it is only as a result of the election that the sale was consummated. The price paid could not be learned, but it is estimated at from \$15,000 to \$25,000. Large improvements will be made at once. Mr. Gilfill contemplates moving his lumber business to the town of Buckhannon, at the end of Usher county and making this his central lumber yard. This will give employment to from fifty to seventy-five men.

HANNA AND REED

The Great Speaker and the Campaign General Meet for the First Time.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.--A ripple of interest swept over the house to-day when it became known that Speaker Reed was the recipient of a call from Mr. M. A. Hanna. The chairman of the national committee, accompanied by General Horace Porter, of New York, who is to be marshal of the inaugural parade, dropped into the speaker's room at the house at 1 o'clock. The speaker was then in the chair, but Representative Smith, of Michigan, who seemed to be arranging the meeting, told Mr. Reed who was waiting for him.

The speaker turned over the gavel to Mr. Sherman, of New York, and stepped back to his office. Several congressmen had already gathered there and witnessed the presentation. It is said that the speaker and the manager of McKim's campaign had never met before. Several members, who had been active in Mr. Hanna's anti-convention campaign and represented Quaker's boom at the capital last spring, took part in the meeting.

NOTHING NEW

In the Sensational Publication Regarding the Turkish Question--Matter Published by the Associated Press.

(Copyright, 1896, by the Associated Press.) LONDON, Dec. 9.--The Birmingham Post to-day confirms the repeated statements on the same subject enabled to the Associated Press during the past two months in saying that it learns from a high quarter that an understanding has been arrived at between Great Britain, Russia, and France for the settlement of the so-called Eastern question, which has for generations been troubling the statesmen of Europe.

The Post adds that the Russian Black sea fleet and the British and French Mediterranean fleets will shortly be mobilized in conformity to the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles in order to enforce it necessary, the reforms which the embassies of the three powers are about to present to the sultan, and to which the other signers of the Berlin treaty, Germany, Austria and Italy have consented. To this end, it is asserted, the allied fleets may force the passage of the straits of the Dardanelles.

On September 25, while the czar was at Balmoral, as called to the Associated Press at the time, the Manchester Guardian made a similar statement, also alleging that the co-operation of France had purchased by a provision regarding Egypt, and adding that the scheme foreshadowed the neutralization of both Egypt and Turkey, under an international guarantee with their rulers under international tutelage.

Dispatches from Constantinople, under date of October 1, seemed to confirm the story and a dispatch to the Associated Press from Vienna on October 2, said that the Vienna correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphed:

"This paper has agreed upon a pacific settlement of the eastern question, honorable to all parties and amply guaranteeing the security of the Armenians."

The same correspondent on October 5, as then cabled to the Associated Press, wired from Vienna, declaring that the agreement of the powers for the settlement of the Turkish problem, which had good authority for publishing, includes the formation of an Armenian zone in the Turkish empire on the basis of the Jewish pale in Russia, the powers guaranteeing the safety of the Armenians therein, with the idea that the zone would become the germ of a new Armenian state.

The Mail correspondent added: "The active operations will be undertaken by England, France and Russia, while Italy will co-operate, if necessary."

On October 8, a dispatch from Paris to the Associated Press said that it was announced there that France, Russia and Great Britain had arrived at an entente in regard to Turkey, and that it was expected that these powers would immediately dispatch to the port a vigorous note demanding the adoption of reforms which will secure the safety of the Armenians in the Turkish empire.

The Daily News of London, on October 2, published a dispatch from Paris, saying it was stated there that through the efforts of the czar as an intermediary an agreement had been reached between the Russian, French and British governments for the settlement of the troubles in Turkey, adding that should the plan of settlement decided upon, be unopposed by the two members of the Dardanelles, the third member will be obliged to accept.

Other developments were cabled from time to time.

Finally on December 3, (this and all the other developments having been cabled to the Associated Press on the several dates given), the Daily News announced that the powers would shortly consider a project having for its object the occupation by Russia of the "Northwestern corner of Turkey," formed by the Bosphorus and the Black sea to about half way down the Bosphorus which, together with the Hellespont, will become entirely free to the vessels of all nations. The forts along the Hellespont will be dismantled and the powers will assume the protection of the Hellespont and Constantinople.

The Daily News added that the project provides for the sultan retiring from the rulership of Turkey.

In the above collection of dispatches and especially from the Daily News' announcement of December 3, will be found the basis of the sensational reports circulated by a news agency and published in a New York newspaper to-day as a special dispatch from London.

There is no doubt that the powers have been for many months past "coming to an understanding regarding Turkey and there is reason to believe that the better feeling now existing between Great Britain and France and Russia is hastening the solution of the vexing eastern question."

But the sensational features of the case are covered with the mildest of months and there is absolutely nothing new in announcing that the Turk "must yield."

HIGHWAYMEN FOILED.

Robbers Held Up an Express Train but Failed to Open the Safe.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 9.--The Iron Mountain fast express train outgoing, was held up one mile from the Union Station, within the city limits, to-night at 8:20 by six masked men. The express safe could not be opened and the bandits fled without booty.

One of the men stood in the center of the track and waved a red lantern, signifying that danger was ahead. The engineer stopped the train and no sooner had he done so than two masked men jumped on the engine cab and presenting revolvers, told him to hold the engine still on pain of death. Two of the other robbers made for the express car, while the remaining two stood guard outside. In less than fifteen minutes the whole thing was over and the conductor hastened to the nearest telephone and notified the police.

Trying to Chase the Galloway.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 9.--It developed to-day that a bartender in Newport, while under the influence of liquor, had predicted that Jackson and Walling would never hang and later said they were already supplied with morphine to be used for suicide. This statement has since been partly confirmed by the jailer, who says he has been laying plans to get the proof.

Mr. Bayard Accepts.

LONDON, Dec. 9.--The United States ambassador, Mr. Bayard, has accepted the invitation of the Lord Mayor of London, Mr. George Paudel-Phillips, to be present at a banquet, which will be given in honor of Mr. Bayard on March 2.

Another Dental.

ROME, Dec. 9.--The officials at the Vatican again deny that any disciplinary measures have been taken against ecclesiastics of the United States or connected with the Catholic university at Washington.

Doules II.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.--Rev. T. De Witt Thalmus to-day formally denied the report that he is to marry Miss Susie Managan of Sing Sing.

THE STEEL POOL.

Operators Holding a Secret Conference at Pittsburgh.

BELLAIRE COMPANY SECEDES.

Alleging that a Pittsburgh Firm Has Been Selling Outside Its Territory--Report that a Collapse of the Pool is Imminent is Denied--Claimed that in Splendid Withdrawals Combination will be Strengthened--Meeting Secret and Little Information Given Out.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9.--An important meeting of the steel producers of the country is in session here to-day and all sorts of rumors are afloat as to the object of the meeting, but nothing definite is known at this time. It is said that the question of the dissolution of the steel pool is under consideration.

There is a tangle in its affairs and the chances for life and death are said to be about equal. There are a number of well posted manufacturers who have no hope for the organization, while others feel confident that the disagreement that has caused considerable friction for some time will be dispipated and the pool continued.

One firm, the Bellaire Steel Company, has given formal notice of its withdrawal and a Pittsburgh concern has about decided upon the same course.

The cause of the trouble is the charge of the Bellaire concern that a Pittsburgh firm had been selling outside its territory under the established pool rates. It is also said that the meeting is to consider prices and change the allotments.

All the producers in the pool are represented at the meeting.

The steel pool was organized at New York April 1. During the extreme depression last summer it was the power that kept the metal markets together.

The meeting adjourned to-night until to-morrow when some positive decision will be reached. The meeting to-day was a secret one and little definite information could be secured by outsiders.

It is now said the outcome of the meeting to-morrow will not be a dissolution of the pool, but a strengthening of the organization. All the members except the Bellaire Steel Company, which has rebelled, will continue in the pool, the difference in its workings for the future being an open market instead of set prices, allotments, etc. This will result in a probable drop in prices, and unless the Bellaire company decides to co-operate with the pool, it will be practically fighting the entire organization. If the present intention is carried out at to-morrow's meeting.

Developments are awaited with great interest.

The Proposed Paper Combine.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.--Conferences are still in progress between representatives of the paper manufacturers who are seeking to form a trust. The three largest manufacturers of newspaper in the United States--the Gless, Falls, Paper Company, the Hudson River Mill and Pulp Company and Russell Bros.--are said to strongly favor the proposed combination.

THE BICYCLE RACE

Hale Scores His Thousandth Mile and Breaks the Record.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.--At 8 o'clock to-night Madison Square Garden presented a lively appearance, as it has at no time since the word "go" was given.

The greatest enthusiasm prevailed when the plucky Irishman Hale scored his 1,000th mile. This was shortly after 6 o'clock. Hale rode the 1,000 miles in sixty-six hours, eleven minutes, twenty-seven seconds. The previous record, made by a German, was 921 miles and three laps, made in the Garden in 1893 by Martin.

Between 5 and 8 o'clock Hale rode about forty-one miles, while Rice, the second man, rode about forty-three miles. During that time, however, Schock was more frequently off the track. Schock fell behind during the hour named. He rode as if very tired and scored only twenty-two miles between 5 and 8 o'clock.

Schock and Hale indulged in several spurts, but the Irishman went ahead whenever he felt like it. Schock is a plodder in this race and during the night he kept up